

2021 Trilateral MEDREG-CEER-ERCB

Implementing CEP Package: Renewable self consumers in Portugal

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Paulo Oliveira



Renewable self consumption and collective energy sharing effectively empowers consumers



- Strong growth of renewable self consumers (residential and companies)
- Collective energy sharing has raised a lot of interest, starting with public bodies (municipalities)
- Effective and decentralized contribution to the energy transition



Consumers lack adequate skills and rely on thirdparties for investment and operation decisions



- Individual self consumption is mature and growing, supported by ESCos for the initial investment, however...
- Collective energy sharing struggles with finding the adequate legal arrangements between participants
- Investment payback-time ties consumers to other self consumers or third-parties longer than desirable (it is somehow contradictory with trend to frequent supplier changing)
- Many consumers search for turn-key solutions and do not want to be involved in day-to-day operations (sharing, demand response) thus their empowerment tends to be delegated



Self consumption may bring concrete impact in energy bills and services



- New actors have appeared in the sector and offer innovative products and services
- Enables first movers towards decarbonisation
- May contribute to change in energy habits by giving momentum to energy efficiency actions (PV + LED + EV + other)
- Renewable self consumption is seen as a future proof option to target COVID19 Recovery Funds



Costs and benefits must be fairly shared between consumers w or w/o renewable self consumption



- Energy policy options favour self consumption with tariff levies discount and financial incentives but non-self consumers cannot benefit
- Access to self consumption depends on consumers' financial capacity and housing characteristics
- Traditional suppliers lose business volume with self consumption and complexity increases (e.g. billing)